

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 20, 2023

Ms. Heidi Shyu

Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E))

3030 Defense Pentagon

Washington, DC 20301-3030

Dear Ms. Shyu,

As the members of the Ohio Congressional Delegation, we write to express support for the Midwest Microelectronics Consortium (MMEC) and its application for regional hub designation through the Department of Defense's ME Commons program. The MMEC is an important regional initiative that will bring the best solutions to our nation's warfighters, and likewise support our critical National Security Strategy to regain dominance in the global microelectronics industry.

With numerous military installations and many critical components in the defense industry supply chain, the state of Ohio is proud to serve as a key contributor to the defense of our Nation. As such, it is a natural fit for Ohio to be chosen as the home of a regional technology hub under the ME Commons program, supporting microelectronics innovation that can rapidly move from the laboratory to fabrication.

Over 50 midwestern businesses, organizations, and educational institutions have pledged their support for the MMEC. Ohio is proud of its heritage of supporting innovation at key military and defense institutions in the state, including the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright Patterson AFB and NASA Glenn Research Center. Additionally, Ohio's high-caliber educational facilities will continue to churn out the talented workforce needed to support the MMEC and its activities.

The MMEC will grow the region's position as an international innovation and technology hub by advancing the capability of the microelectronics ecosystem serving both defense and commercial markets. As geopolitical tensions continue to rise and semiconductors become more and more critical to the defense of our nation, we applaud the efforts of the MMEC and urge your favorable consideration of the MMEC's submission to the Strategic & Spectrum Missions Advanced Resilient Trusted Systems (S²MARTS) Request for Solutions.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Turner
United States Representative



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



JD Vance
United States Senator



Joyce Beatty
United States Representative



Mike Carey
United States Representative



Bill Johnson
United States Representative



Greg Landsman
United States Representative



Max Miller
United States Representative



Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.
United States Representative



Troy Balderson
United States Representative



Shontel Brown
United States Representative



Warren Davidson
United States Representative



Marcy Kaptur
United States Representative



Robert E. Latta
United States Representative



Emilia Strong Sykes
United States Representative